



PTO/SB/08A (10-01)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete If Known			
		Application Number	09/909,735		
		Filing Date	July 20, 2001		
		First Named Inventor	John T. Loh		
		Art Unit	1651		
		Examiner Name	Leon B. Lankford, Jr.		
Sheet	1	of	3	Attorney Docket Number	UTR-103XC1

RECEIVED

MAR 14 2002

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number - Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
✓	U1	US-4,535,061	08-13-1985	Chakrabarty	All
	U2	US-5,173,424	12-22-1992	Stacey	All
	U3	US-5,695,541	12-09-1997	Kosanke	All
✓	U4	US-5,916,029	06-29-1999	Smith	All
	U5	US-			
	U6	US-			
	U7	US-			
	U8	US-			
	U9	US-			
	U10	US-			
	U11	US-			
	U12	US-			
	U13	US-			
	U14	US-			
	U15	US-			
	U16	US-			
	U17	US-			
	U18	US-			
	U19	US-			
	U20	US-			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
	F1					
	F2					
	F3					
	F4					
	F5					
	F6					
	F7					
	F8					
	F9					
	F10					

Examiner Signature	LANKFORD	Date Considered	12/30/02
--------------------	----------	-----------------	----------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



Under the Paperwork Reduction Project 10-1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

PTO/SB/08B (10-01)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

+

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	09/909,735
		Filing Date	July 20, 2001
		First Named Inventor	John T. Loh
		Group Art Unit	1651
		Examiner Name	Leon B. Lankford, Jr.
		Attorney Docket Number	UTR-103XC1
Sheet	2	of	3

RECEIVED
MAR 14 2002
TECH CENTER 1600/290

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
LB	R1	Banfalvi et al. [1988] "Regulation of nod gene Expression in Bradyrhizobium japonicum," Mol. Gen. Genet. 214:420-424, Springer-Verlag	
	R2	Cha et al. [1998] "Production of Acyl-Homoserine Lactone Quorum-Sensing Signals by Gram-Negative Plant-Associated Bacteria," Mol. Plant Microbe Int. 11(11):1119-1129, The American Phytopathological Society	
	R3	Cubo et al. [1992] "Molecular Characterization and Regulation of the Rhizosphere-Expressed Genes <i>rhiABC</i> That Can Influence Nodulation by <i>Rhizobium leguminosarum</i> Biovar viciae," J. Bacteriol. 174:4026-4035, American Society for Microbiology	
	R4	Dockendorff et al. [1994] "NolA Represses nod Gene Expression in <i>Bradyrhizobium japonicum</i> ," Mol. Plant-Microbe Interact. 7(5):596-602, The American Phytopathological Society	
	R5	Fellay et al. [1998] "nodD2 of <i>Rhizobium</i> sp. NGR234 is involved in the repression of the nodABC operon," Mol. Microbiol. 27(5):1039-1050, Blackwell Science Ltd.	
	R6	Fuqua, W.C., et al. [1994] "Quorum Sensing in Bacteria: The LuxR-LuxI Family of Cell Density-Responsive Transcriptional Regulators," J. Bacteriol. 176(2):269-275, American Society for Microbiology	
	R7	Fuqua, W.C. and S.C. Winans [1994] "A LuxR-LuxI Type Regulatory System Activates <i>Agrobacterium</i> Ti Plasmid Conjugal Transfer in the Presence of a Plant Tumor Metabolite," J. Bacteriol. 176(10):2796-2806, American Society for Microbiology	
	R8	Garcia, M.L., et al. [1996] "Phenotypic Characterization and Regulation of the nolA gene of <i>Bradyrhizobium japonicum</i> ," Mol. Plant-Microbe Interact 9(7):625-635, The American Phytopathological Society	
	R9	Gillette, W.K. and G. H. Elkan [1996] " <i>Bradyrhizobium</i> (<i>Arachis</i>) sp. Strain NC92 Contains Two nodD Genes Involved in the Repression of nodA and a nolA Gene Required for the Efficient Nodulation of Host Plants," J. Bacteriol. 178(10):2757-2766, American Society for Microbiology	
	R10	Gray et al. [1996] "Cell-to-Cell Signaling in the Symbiotic Nitrogen-Fixing Bacterium <i>Rhizobium leguminosarum</i> : Autoinduction of a Stationary Phase and Rhizosphere-Expressed Genes," J. Bacteriol. 178(2):372-376, American Society for Microbiology	
	R11	Hardman, A.M. et al. [1998] "Quorum sensing and the cell-cell communication dependent regulation of gene expression in pathogenic and non-pathogenic bacteria," Antonie van Leeuwenhoek 74:199-210, Kluwer Academic Publishers, Netherlands	
	R12	Kleerebezem et al. [1997] "Quorum sensing by peptide pheromones and two-component signal-transduction systems in Gram-positive bacteria," Mol. Microbiol. 24(5):895-904, Blackwell Science Ltd.	
	R13	Loh et al. [2002] "A Two-Component Regulator Mediates Population-Density-Dependent Expression of the <i>Bradyrhizobium japonicum</i> Nodulation Genes," J. Bacteriol. 184(6):1-8	

Examiner Signature	LANKFORD	Date Considered	12/30/01
--------------------	----------	-----------------	----------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

+

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending on the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.



PTO/SB/08B (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

+

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary)			Complete if Known	
			Application Number	09/909,735
			Filing Date	July 20, 2001
			First Named Inventor	John T. Loh
			Group Art Unit	1651
			Examiner Name	Leon B. Lankford, Jr.
			Attorney Docket Number	UTR-103XC1
Sheet	3	of	3	

RECEIVED
MAR 14 2002
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article, (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T ²
hlc	R14	Loh, J.T. and G. Stacey [2001] "Feedback regulation of the <i>Bradyrhizobium japonicum</i> nodulation genes," <i>Mol. Microbiol.</i> 41(8):1357-1364, Blackwell Science Ltd.			
	R15	Loh et al. [2001] "Population density-dependent regulation of the <i>Bradyrhizobium japonicum</i> nodulation genes," <i>Mol. Microbiol.</i> 42(1):37-46, Blackwell Science Ltd.			
	R16	Loh et al. [1999] "The <i>Bradyrhizobium japonicum</i> <i>nodA</i> Gene Encodes Three Functionally Distinct Proteins," <i>J. Bacteriol.</i> 181(5):1544-1554, American Society for Microbiology			
	R17	Loh et al. [1997] "NodV and NodW, a Second Flavonoid Recognition System Regulating <i>nod</i> Gene Expression in <i>Bradyrhizobium japonicum</i> ," <i>J. Bacteriol.</i> 179(9):3013-3020, American Society for Microbiology			
	R18	Nieuwkoop et al. [1987] "A Locus Encoding Host Range is Linked to the Common Nodulation Genes of <i>Bradyrhizobium japonicum</i> ," <i>J. Bacteriol.</i> 169(6):2631-2638, American Society for Microbiology			
	R19	Rosemeyer et al. [1998] " <i>luxI</i> - and <i>luxR</i> -Homologous Genes of <i>Rhizobium etli</i> CNPAF512 Contribute to Synthesis of Autoinducer Molecules and Nodulation of <i>Phaseolus vulgaris</i> ," <i>J. Bacteriol.</i> 180(4):815-821, American Society for Microbiology			
	R20	Sadowsky et al. [1991] "The <i>Bradyrhizobium japonicum</i> <i>nodA</i> gene and its involvement in the genotype-specific nodulation of soybeans," <i>Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA</i> 88:637-641			
	R21	Thorne and Williams [1999] "Cell Density-Dependent Starvation Survival of <i>Rhizobium leguminosarum</i> bv. <i>phaseoli</i> : Identification of the Role of an <i>N</i> -Acyl Homoserine Lactone in Adaptation to Stationary-Phase Survival," <i>J. Bacteriol.</i> 181(3):981-990, American Society for Microbiology			
	R22	van Brussel et al. [1985] "Bacteriocin <i>small</i> of Fast-Growing Rhizobia is Chloroform Soluble and is not Required for Effective Nodulation," <i>J. Bacteriol.</i> 162(3):1079-1082, American Society for Microbiology			
	R23	Wijffelman et al. [1983] "Repression of Small Bacteriocin Excretion in <i>Rhizobium leguminosarum</i> and <i>Rhizobium trifolii</i> by Transmissible Plasmids," <i>Mol. Gen. Genet.</i> 192:171-176, Springer-Verlag			
	R24	Yuen, J.P. and G. Stacey [1996] "Inhibition of <i>nod</i> Gene Expression in <i>Bradyrhizobium japonicum</i> by Organic Acids," <i>Mol. Plant-Microbe Interact.</i> 9(5):424-428, The American Phytopathological Society			
	R26				

Examiner Signature	LANKFORD	Date Considered	12/30/2
--------------------	----------	-----------------	---------

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

+

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending on the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.